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C O N F I D E N T I A L

REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 9 Nov. '53

SUBJECT Security Forces

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DATE OF INFO

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. [redacted] the Interior Guard (Vnit-
trni Straz - VS). [redacted] it was a successor to the
old Castle Guard (Hradni Straz), which formerly guarded the presi-
dential palace in Prague. [redacted] the Interior Guard was
organized in companies stationed in and about larger cities. It
was supposed to guard railroad stations, bridges, public buildings,
and the like. Members of the Interior Guard wore the regular Army
uniform but could be distinguished from Army personnel by their
violet shoulderboards. [redacted] the Interior Guard units were
equipped with nothing heavier than submachine guns. [redacted]

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[redacted] Interior Guard personnel received the same pay as Army per-
sonnel of the same grade. [redacted]

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[redacted] for example,
members of the Interior Guard never were used to check the docu-
ments of soldiers on leave passing through railroad stations. How-
ever, the Interior Guard may have worked with the State Secret
Police (Statni Bezpecnost - StB) in apprehending deserters and
politically unreliable personnel of the Czechoslovak Army. The
Interior Guard units probably acted mainly as an auxiliary to the
other forces of the Ministry of National Security, which was the
ministry to which the Interior Guard was responsible.

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[redacted] a politically reliable conscript
had a better chance of being assigned to the Interior Guard when
called up for military service than a conscript with a doubtful
political background. [redacted]

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- [REDACTED]
3. In January 1953 or earlier the name of the SNB was changed to Public Security (Verejna Bezpecnost - VB). [REDACTED] in January 1953 [REDACTED] the SNB office in Mlada (near Milovice) [REDACTED] the letters SNB had been painted out and replaced by the letters MVVB (Mistni Velitelstvi Verejne Bezpecnosti - Local Command of Public Security). [REDACTED] the VB was designated OVVB in the district (okres) and KVVB in the region (kraj). The VB guarded and inspected all trucks which carried vital shipments within Czechoslovakia and was on the lookout for any disturbances in factories and other places of employment.

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4. The function of the StB was to apprehend any persons who talked against the state and to maintain a close watch over the political unreliaables who were serving labor sentences at the Jachymov uranium mines. The mission of the People's Militia was to assist the local police in any disorders which might occur in factories.

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[REDACTED] the Army League (SVAZARM), which gave youngsters training in basic army subjects such as rifle training, execution of military commands, and drill [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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